A brief review on the recorded vital statistics for the half-year ending 31st December 1926.

A statement showing by districts the number of births, the number of deaths classified according to principal causes and the infantile mortality recorded during the half-year ending 31st December 1926, is hereto annexed.

BIRTHS.

2. The total number of births registered during the half-year was 64,899 as against 56,173 in the preceding half-year equivalent to an annual ratio of 22·15 and 19·17, respectively per mille of population. The highest birth rate (29·73) was returned for the Kolar District, and the lowest (15·42) for the Kadur District, the rates for the other districts ranging between 26·27 (Tumkur) and 16·52 (Hassan).

DEATHS.

3. The number of deaths under all causes returned for the half-year totalled 46,763 yielding an annual ratio of 15·78 per mille of population as compared with 40,815 and 13·93 per mille respectively in the preceding half-year. The death-rate for the Tumkur District (12·55) was the lowest and that for the Shimoga District (27·66) the highest, the rates for the other districts ranging between 13·44 (Bangalore) and 21·54 (Kadur).

Deaths exceeded births in two districts, *viz.*, Shimoga and Kadur.

4. The mortality among children under one year of age amounted to 5,889 as against 4,703 during the previous half-year. This gives an average of 90·73 per 1,000 of recorded births. The highest infantile mortality rate was returned for Shimoga District. The rates were also high for Kadur (126·75), Hassan (114·81) and Chitaldrug (103·55.) In the other districts the rates ranged between 51·96 (Mysore) and 78·16 (Bangalore).

5. Plague—was returned for all districts and accounted for a total of 4,210, deaths as compared with 3,078 in the previous half-year, the districts of Shimoga, Mysore and Chitaldrug contributing a relatively large number of deaths, *viz.*, 1,257, 839 and 676 respectively. The number of inoculations performed totalled 84,541 for the half-year.

6. Cholera. Sporadic cases of cholera (suspicious) were returned for four districts, *viz.*, Bangalore, Hassan, Kolar and Mysore.

7. Under small-pox, the recorded deaths were 190 as against 638 in the previous half-year, the districts most affected being Chitaldrug and Mysore. The number of vaccinations performed during the half-year totalled 55,958.

8. During the half-year 22,275 deaths were returned as due to Fevers as against 20,125 during the preceding half-year. The incidence of fevers in the Mysore, Shimoga and Hassan Districts was high as compared with the other districts owing to the prevalence of Malaria. The free distribution of quinine in the affected areas in the malnad districts was continued. Anti-malarial measures such as filling up or canalising ditches or hollows, etc., are reported to have received some attention.

During the half-year the Reserve Sanitary Inspector attached to this department was deputed to conduct malarial surveys in the Saklespur and Arsikere Towns and hook-worm investigations in the respective taluks. Detailed inspections for hook-worm were made in an aggregate of 79 villages in the Saklespur and Arsikere Taluks, out of which hook-worm was found to be prevalent in eight villages. The existance of the disease was confirmed by an examination of the follal matter. In the two towns the actual breeding grounds of mosquitoes have been mapped out after examination of the larvae. The potential breeding places have also been noted down for necessary further action.

9. One thousand three hundred and ninty-four deaths under respiratory diseases were returned as against 1,394 in the previous half-year.

10. A total of 2,094 deaths under Dysentery and Diarrhœa was recorded during the half-year as compared with 1595, in the preceding half-year.

11. Six hundred and forty-four deaths were returned as due to injuries, including accidents, snake-bite and suicide.

12. Under all other causes 15,947 deaths were returned as against 13,368 deaths in the previous half-year.

13. General:—On the whole the public health during the half-year may be said to have been satisfactory except for the prevalence of plague in most of the districts.

Statement showing the Vital Statistics for the half-year ending 31st December 1926.

District	Population according to census of 1921	Number of births registered	Annual ratio per 1,000 of population	Number of deaths registered	Annual ratio per 1,000 of population	Causes of deaths		
						Plague	Cholera	Small-pox
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Bangalore	9,06,935	11,581	25·56	6,097	13·44	529	3	14
Kolar	7,92,339	11,779	29·73	6,422	16·21	232	1	15
Tumkur	7,73,122	10,157	26·27	4,854	12·55	339	..	2
Mysore	14,03,319	13,605	19·38	10,284	14·65	839	1	40
Hassan	5,83,960	4,825	16·52	4,273	14·63	169	3	7
Shimoga	4,92,560	4,412	17·91	6,814	27·66	1,257	..	26
Kadur	3,33,538	2,572	15·42	3,555	21·31	169	..	16
Chitaldrug	5,74,176	5,938	20·75	4,464	15·54	676	..	70
Total ..	58,59,952	64,899	22·15	46,763	15·78	4,210	8	190

District	Causes of deaths							Infant mortality	
	Fevers	Respiratory diseases	Dysentery and diarrhoea	Suicide	Wound or accident	Snake-bite or killed by wild beasts	All other causes	Number of children that died during half-year	Annual ratio per 1,000 of births
	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
Bangalore ..	2,011	441	331	7	71	12	2,678	906	78·16
Kolar	2,377	214	440	28	114	33	2,968	1,172	99·49
Tumkur	2,301	31	108	8	68	16	1,881	898	88·41
Mysore	5,460	364	507	33	74	21	2,945	707	51·96
Hassan	2,853	34	82	2	37	5	1,081	654	114·81
Shimoga	3,171	170	418	3	63	9	1,697	709	160·69
Kadur	2,256	42	102	1	..	1	968	326	126·75
Chitaldrug ..	1,846	99	106	5	23	10	1,629	617	103·55
Total ..	22,275	1,395	2,094	87	450	107	15,947	6,989	90·73

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